

H. Res. 527

In the House of Representatives, U. S.,

July 11, 2007.

Whereas an estimated 1,300,000 to 2,800,000 youths in the United States are homeless for at least one night each year, with many staying on the streets or in emergency shelters;

Whereas homeless youth are typically too poor to secure basic needs, are often unable to access adequate medical or mental health care, and are often unaware of supportive services that are available;

Whereas an average of 13 homeless youth die each day due to physical assault, illness, or suicide;

Whereas some homeless youth are expelled from their homes or run away after physical, sexual, or emotional abuse by their parents or guardians, or are separated from their parents through death or divorce;

Whereas other youth become homeless due to a lack of financial and housing resources as they exit juvenile corrections or foster care, including 25 percent of foster youth who experience homelessness within two to four years after exiting foster care;

Whereas awareness of the tragedy of youth homelessness and its causes should be heightened to better coordinate current programs with the many families, businesses, law

enforcement agencies, schools, and community and faith-based organizations working to help youth remain off the streets; and

Whereas November would be an appropriate month to recognize as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports helping vulnerable youth through current programs authorized under title IV of the Social Security Act;

(2) encourages the promotion through such programs of assistance for especially foster youth in staying off the streets, staying in school, and obtaining their high school diplomas and further education and training;

(3) applauds the initiative of public and private organizations and individuals dedicated to helping these programs prevent homelessness among youth, and provide aid when prevention fails; and

(4) should recognize “National Homeless Youth Awareness Month” to support and further encourage such efforts.

Attest:

Clerk.